

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06

CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 /097 W

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R 102205Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9080

INFO AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY QUITO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

UNCLAS BOGOTA 5301

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ECIN CO

SUBJ: ANDEAN PACT: CRITICISM OF JUNTA OFFICIALS

REF: LIMIA 4613

1. EDITORIAL IN "LA REPUBLICA" THAT PROMPTED REACTION BY JUNTA AS REPORTED REFTEL NOT ONLY ATTACKED IMPARTIALITY OF ANDEAN PACT OFFICIALS BUT ALSO ASSERTED THAT IN ANDEAN MATTERS "THERE IS A NOTORIOUS TENDENCY FOR OTHERS TO RECEIVE THE LION'S SHARE WHILE WE ARE ASSIGNED THAT OF A MOUSE." EDITORIAL SAID PROPOSED SHARE FOR COLOMBIA IN AUTOMOTIVE AND PETROCHEMICAL SECTORS, IF NOT CORRECTED, WOULD LEAVE COLOMBIA IN POSITION OF CAPTIVE MARKET FOR THE OTHER MEMBERS. CONCLUSION WAS THAT COLOMBIA SHOULD UNDERTAKE STUDY OF WHETHER IT SHOULD REMAIN IN THE PACT OR NOT.

2. AS CONSERVATIVE NEWSPAPER, "LA REPUBLICA" IS REFLECTING SENTIMENTS OF AT LEAST A SEGMENT OF COLOMBIA'S BUSINESS
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SECTOR. BUT IT ALSO BUILDS ON CRITICISM RECENTLY VOICED BY

ALBERTO GALEANO, COLOMBIA'S ANDEAN COMMISSION MEMBER. GALEANO RELATED THAT AT THE LATEST COMMISSION MEETING THE JUNTA PROPOSED A CHANGE IN COLOMBIA'S AUTOMOTIVE SECTOR ASSIGNMENTS THAT HE REJECTED OUT OF HAND BECAUSE NEGOTIATIONS THEN WERE AT THE GOVERNMENT TO GOVERNMENT LEVEL, NOT AT THE JUNTA LEVEL. THE JUNTA " SHOULD BE MORE PRUDENT", HE SAID.

3. GALEANO ARGUED THAT COLOMBIA IS OFFERED 17.72 PERCENT OF ANDEAN PRODUCTION IN 1980, LESS THAN VENEZUELA, CHILE OR PERU, BUT THAT SINCE COLOMBIA HAS 35 PERCENT OF THE REGION'S POPULATION IT SHOULD HAVE A PARTICIPATION RELATED TO THEE MARKET IT OFFERS. SPECIFICALLY COLOMBIA WANTS TO BE ASSIGNED TWO AUTO-MOBILE AND TWO TRUCK CATEGORIES RATHER THAN ONE EACH AS PRESENTLY PROPOSED. HE ALSO SAID THAT AUTO PARTS REPRESENT TRUE REGIONAL INDUSTRY, WHILE FINISHED VEHICLES ARE PRODUCTS OF MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES.
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